

San Diego Police Department

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE CONTACT: Lieutenant Terry McManus

Date: July 21, 2009 (Tuesday) Homicide Unit Time: 1330 hours (619) 531-2275

POLICE INVESTIGATE SUSPICIOUS DEATH IN MISSION BAY PARK

(**San Diego**) San Diego Police Homicide Unit detectives are investigating the circumstances surrounding the death of an adult male found yesterday evening at 4600 Friars Road near the San Diego River.

At 8:24 p.m., police officers from Northern and Western Divisions received a radio call to meet with a citizen who came across a deceased male in the brush area on the north bank of the San Diego River at 4600 Friars Road. The reporting party and his friend were walking on the sidewalk adjacent to the river looking for a suitable location to do some fishing. They discovered the deceased male in the heavy vegetation south of Friars Road, between the sidewalk and the river. After their discovery, the two citizens walked to the intersection of Friars Road and Sea World Drive where they notified the police department.

Police officers and an investigator from the Medical Examiner's Office arrived to examine the decedent. Suspected trauma located on the victim's body led to the notification of homicide personnel. At this point in the investigation, it appears that the victim died as a result of a single gunshot wound to the head, possibly self inflicted. The specific circumstances that led to the shooting are being investigated by the homicide unit. An autopsy performed today will determine the cause and manner of death.

The male victim has not yet been identified. He is Caucasian, and appears to be between 45 and 50 years old. Anyone with information about this incident is encouraged to telephone the San Diego Police Homicide Unit at (619) 531-2293.